

Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee (CDCAC) Meeting
Wednesday, January 2
2100 Clarendon Blvd – Courthouse Plaza
Room 311

Members Present: Kenneth Robinson, Rosemary Leffler, Diane Duston, Steven Gallagher, Tim Denning, Linc Cummings, Larry Withers, Maryclare Whitehead, Lara Malakoff

Staff Present: Caitlin Jones, Jennifer Daniels

Members of the Public Present: Aleksandr Belinskiy

Tim Denning called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

1. FY 2020 Action Plan Public Hearing

A public hearing on the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan was held to solicit feedback on the needs of low- and moderate-income households in Arlington County. The Annual Action Plan is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) required document that describes federal grant allocations, objectives, activities, and performance measures for goals identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2016-2020 related to affordable housing, homelessness, community development, citizen participation and institutional structure.

Aleksandr Belinskiy, member of the public, commented that Virginia Law generally does not require relocation payments for tenants displaced because of rehabilitation. Mr. Belinskiy suggested that the County should consider CDBG to fund relocation payment assistance for tenants affected by by-right development displacement.

Staff responded that the County encourages developers to provide relocation services, but if it's a by-right development there's only so much the County to do when working with the developer. The County also has a tenant assistance fund for tenants at risk of being displaced by projects going through the site plan process.

2. November 7 Meeting Minutes

November meeting minutes, approved unanimously

3. CSBG Financial Update

County staff detailed the amount of CSBG that was allocated to CSBG in first quarter of FY 2019 as well as the amounts requested and expended by organizations as of October 1, 2018. For the first quarter, most programs were on target to meet expectations.

Staff also provided a program update for the Bridge to Work (B2i) program. B2i indicated that due to a loss in staff – the facilitator position was vacant for the duration of the first quarter - no CSBG funds were utilized during the period. The program has connected with a local partner, a Time for Change, LLC, an experienced vocational rehabilitative services provider to provide service to 26 households who have been identified for service. The newly contracted Bridge to Work facilitator began employment on October 15th. 2018. The program intends to be back on track and positioned to meet and exceed identified program outcomes.

Steve Gallagher asked if funds can be redirected to cover costs in subsequent quarters if programming changes and funds aren't spent early on in a program year. Staff responded that organizations may invoice for funds as needed throughout the year as programs develop. In addition, subrecipients can request budget modifications throughout the year, if needed.

Committee members recommended that staff provide regular financial quarterly reports, not only for programs funded by CSBG but also CDBG and other sources. Committee members also recommended that staff provide quarterly updates to program status and information about major changes affect subrecipients.

4. *CDCAC Bylaws*

County staff reviewed the CDCAC bylaws with the organization and suggested that the Committee consider various changes to the document. In particular, staff recommended that the low-moderate income (LMI) neighborhood representation and the specific definition for what it means to be a democratically elected LMI member be clarified in the Bylaws. In addition, Tim Denning asked Committee members to consider whether CDCAC should have a more active role in other areas or activities besides making recommendations about Community Development Fund funding and other policy recommendations. CDCAC members recommended several changes to the Bylaws for staff to incorporate and for CDCAC to consider at the February meeting.

5. *Staff Report*

No staff reports

6. *Chair Report*

Tim Denning reported that he is meeting with Kellen MacBeth, chair of the Tenant-Landlord Commission and Holly Bray, chair of the Citizens Advisory Commission on Housing to discuss ways CDCAC, Housing Commission and T-L commissions can collaborate. Tim also reported that he is attending the Langston-Brown Community association meeting on January 14 to recruit new members.

7. *Member Report*

CDCAC members asked if staff could organize an upcoming CDCAC meeting at another location in the community. Staff is considering scheduled the March 2019 meeting at a location other than Courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 6 at 6:30pm at 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Room 311.